



SNEAKERS

J.T.C.

Johnny, when I get rich I will buy this land for you.




Daddy, all I want is *sneakers*. to keep my little feet warm.

Sneakers? Sure, Johnny. As soon as I get paid I will buy your *sneakers*.



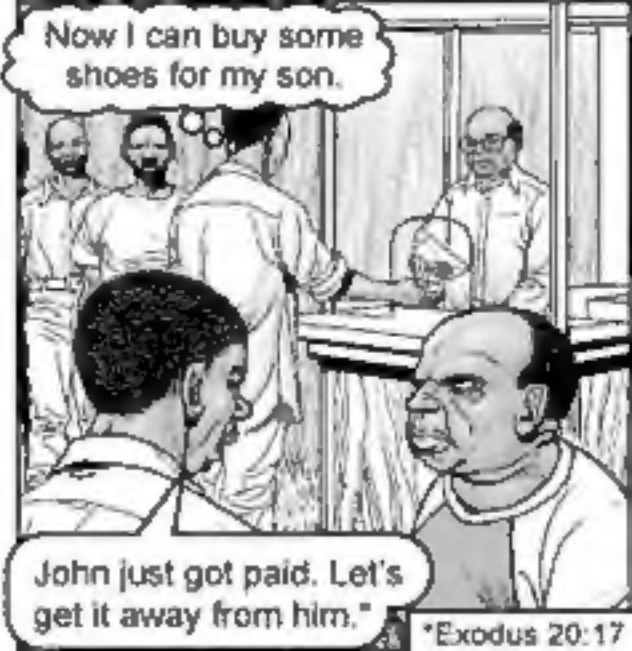
Really Daddy?

Yes, Johnny... you can *trust* your daddy!



Mommy, Daddy is going to buy me some shoes!

How wonderful. Your daddy is a **good** man, Johnny.



Now I can buy some shoes for my son.

John just got paid. Let's get it away from him."

*Exodus 20:17

You can buy those later...

SHUVE'S

Let's stop in at the bar for *one* little drink. Come on, John.

John, do you feel lucky?

Let's get into that card game...


you can *double* your money.



Bring John another drink.*

You lose again, John. It's too bad.

*Habakkuk 2:15



It's time to go home, John. It's closing time.

Already?
(hic)

Oh, John... you're *drunk* again. Where is the money for food?

It's all gone...
I don't *know* what happened.

I've got to get some sleep.

Leave me alone.

Oh, my head...

Daddy, did you bring my sneakers?

Go away, Johnny... I have a headache. I'm sick.

You said I could trust you, Daddy. **You lied!** And God won't let liars into heaven!*

Shut up, Johnny! Get out of here.

I love you, Daddy... and Jesus loves you, too!

*Revelation 21:8

O God, make my daddy stop lying so he can go to heaven.



My feet hurt. Please make him buy my shoes.

Father, whatever it takes to save my husband, please do it, in Jesus' name.



Amen.

(Gulp)

Next payday

John, are you a *woman*? Can't you do what you want? My wife doesn't tell *me* what to do!

Be a man, John...
Just *one* drink. Okay?

I feel lucky tonight.
Can I play?

It's good
old John.

Give John a drink.

You can play with us anytime,
John. Where's your money?

Everybody's gone, John. I've got to put you outside.

Come on, you drunken bum.



The next morning

Look at that man. Is he dead?

Where am I? Ohhh, my head!

No! He's drunk.



John how could you?
You promised!

I'll have to
get a job
so we
can eat



Not Your place
is in the home
I'm a proud
man * I'll earn
the money

*Proverbs 16 18

Daddy, I cut
my foot on
some glass



Did you get my sneakers?

Before God I *promise*
I'll be a good husband
and father I'll *bring*
home my salary
I *won't gamble* any
more. And, Johnny
I *swear* I'll buy you
your *sneakers*.

I *promise*.

Oh, John
please keep
your word

We love you Daddy I know
you'll bring me my *sneakers*.

I'll be home tonight with
Johnny's shoes and the money




Daddy I'm so
excited You
won't let me
down Daddy
not this time

Be careful
John It looks
like a storm
is coming.


Oh Johnny your little
foot looks worse You
mustn't stand on it



It hurts Mommy and I feel
so hot Where's Daddy?



Here's your pay
John. You'd
better hurry home
The storm is
getting worse



John are you going
with us to the bar?

Not tonight. I've got to
get my son his shoes.



John John It's cold tonight We need to get warm The bar is on the way

Just **one** little drink. John I'll pay for it

A black and white illustration of a man walking away from the viewer down a hallway. The hallway has a door on the left and a wall with a picture on the right. The man is in the center, walking towards the end of the hallway.

Okay! Just **one** little drink and I go home **is that understood?**

John, you can *trust us*. We are your *best friends*. Let's go


O God don't let John go to the bar tonight.* Stop him

feel sick.
Mommy

* The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man (or woman) availeth much. James 5:16b

KABOOM


Lightning hit the bar!

A black and white comic panel showing a man in a white shirt and glasses looking at a pair of sneakers on a display table. He has a thoughtful expression. A speech bubble from another person is visible on the left. A thought bubble above him contains text. A speech bubble to his right contains text. The background shows shelves with more shoes.

That was the hand of God

I want those **sneakers** for my son

He will love these shoes They are beautiful

A black and white comic panel showing a man looking at a collapsed bridge. The bridge is broken and twisted. The word 'CRASH' is written in large, bold letters in the upper right corner. The word 'ROAR' is written in large, bold letters at the bottom of the panel.

Oh no The bridge is out I can't cross it tonight

CRASH

ROAR

7 A.M.

Daddy Where are my
sneakers, Daddy?

Hurry, Daddy
I'm so cold.


Johnny! Where are you?
Where have you gone?

JOHNNY!



I hear such beautiful music


Are YOU my Jesus?



O my God
help me

10 A.M. next morning

Johnny!
Johnny!




It's Daddy...
I'm home!
I have your
sneakers.

No! Oh, no... my son *can't*
be dead. Not my Johnny!

How could
this happen?

He died of pneumonia, John.




I'll never see my little son again. He's lost forever.

sob,
sob

John, he can't come back to you, but you can go see him*... in heaven.

*See 2 Samuel 12:23



How can I see him again?

sob,
sob

God gave His Son on the cross to die for your sins, John. That's why Jesus shed His precious blood for you.

O God, forgive me.

Sob

I've gambled,
lied, and was
a drunkard. Please
forgive my wickedness.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16

Lord Jesus, come into my heart* and become my Saviour so when I die I can be with You and little Johnny.

Sob,
sob

Thank You,
Lord Jesus.

*Romans 10:9-10 & 13

THE BIBLE SAYS THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO HEAVEN!

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6

NOBODY ELSE CAN SAVE YOU. TRUST JESUS TODAY!

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Rom. 10:9

1. Admit you are a sinner. See Romans 3:10
2. Be willing to turn from sin (repent). See Acts 17:30
3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you, was buried and rose from the dead. See Rom. 10:9-10
4. Through prayer, invite Jesus into your heart to become your personal Saviour. See Rom. 10:13

WHAT TO PRAY

Dear God, I am a sinner and need forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ shed His precious blood and died for my sin. I am willing to turn from sin. I now invite Christ to come into my heart as my personal Saviour.

If you trusted Jesus as your Saviour, you have just begun a wonderful new life with Him. Now:

1. Read your Bible (KJV) every day to get to know Jesus Christ better.
2. Talk to God in prayer every day.
3. Be baptized, worship, fellowship, and serve with other Christians in a church where Christ is preached and the Bible is the final authority.
4. Tell others about Jesus Christ.

Here's help to grow as a new Christian! Read *The Next Step*, available at www.chick.com.

